

**BIOLOGY FOR NON-MAJORS**  
**Biology 110-501**  
**Spring 2017**

**Syllabus**

**Instructor:** Dr. James C. Farslow  
**Classroom:** Arts & Sciences, Room 133  
**Class hours:** Tuesday and Thursday, 3:00 to 4:15 pm  
**Office:** Academic Office, Arts & Sciences  
**Office Hours:** Tuesday, 1:00 to 2:00 pm, or by appointment  
**Campus Phone:** 505-925-8634 (only during office hours)  
**E-mail:** jfars@unm.edu (best way to contact me)

**Course Description (from course catalog):** Biological principles important for the non-major in today's world. Ecological, evolutionary and molecular topics. (Credit not allowed for both 110 and 123/124L.) Meets New Mexico Lower Division General Education Common Core Curriculum Area III: Science (NMCCN 1114).

**Student Learning Objectives:** At the completion of this course students will be able to:

1. Describe the scientific method and the characteristics of life;
2. Describe atomic structure, chemical bonds, and the four major groups of organic molecules;
3. Identify cell structures and their function, describe cellular transport, and describe metabolism and photosynthesis;
4. Describe DNA structure, the processes of replication, transcription, and translation, describe cell division, and solve genetic problems;
5. Describe the process of evolution, and the interactions of organisms with each other and the environment;
6. Describe the diversity of plants, animals, and microbes.

**Text:** "Biology: The Essentials", Marielle Hoefnagels, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition, 2016, McGraw Hill Publisher (ISBN 978-1-259-29498-3). Access to "Connect" website is required for the course. There will be a total of 18 LearnSmart (LS) assignments. The URL for the class is:

<https://connect.mheducation.com/class/j-farslow-501-spring-2017>

LS assignments are intended for students to become familiar with the material before class. Read the chapter, then take the LS assignment. LS assignments must be completed online by 1:00 pm on the first day that chapter is discussed (see course outline), and will be available online at noon four days preceding the due date. The one exception is Chapter 1 the first day of class. The LS assignment for Ch 1 is due on Thursday, 19 Jan.

**Course Webpage on learn.unm.edu:** Course information including this syllabus, assignments, and grades will be available via learn.unm.edu.

**Learning Commons Hours:** LC will be open Monday through Thursday 8:00 am until 6:00 pm, and Friday 8:00 am to 2:00 pm.

**Attendance Policy:** Attendance will be taken each class as per UNM-Valencia policy. Students risk being dropped if they have more than four (4) absences. Students are responsible for finding out what they missed in class. Class begins at 3:00 pm. At 3:05 students will be considered late. Students who are late or absent will receive a zero for any quiz, exam, or assignment due that day. Contact me if you have a valid excuse (illness, death in the family, etc.) to arrange a make-up, but you will need to provide me evidence (doctor's note, etc.). Busy traffic is not an excuse.

**Academic dishonesty (from the UNM Catalog):** "Each student is expected to maintain the highest standards of honesty and integrity in academic and professional matters. The University reserves the right to take disciplinary action, including dismissal, against any student who is found responsible for academic dishonesty. Any student who has been judged to have engaged in academic dishonesty in course work may receive a reduced or failing grade for the work in question and/or for the course.

Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, dishonesty on quizzes, tests or assignments; claiming credit for work not done or done by others; hindering the academic work of other students; and misrepresenting academic or professional qualifications within or outside the University."

This also applies to anyone who allows someone to cheat off of them.

**Electronic Device Usage:** Students may use laptops or tablets to take notes. However, students will not use these devices for checking e-mail, web surfing, or other non-class activities during class. Cell phones will be silenced during class. No calling, talking or texting during class.

**Student Behavior:** Students will comport themselves as adults in an academic setting. Please do not engage in private conversations or act in an otherwise disruptive manner during class, or you will be asked to leave. If you need to ask the person next to you a question, make it short, do it quickly and quietly. I expect students to extend this courtesy to each other as well.

No vaping in class.

**Grading Breakdown:**

3 Exams (@ 100 points each)	300
Final Exam (comprehensive)	150
Connect/LearnSmart (18 @ 10 points each)	180
Quizzes (12 best @ 10 points each)	120
Homework Assignments (4 @ 25 points each)	100
Total points	850

**Quizzes:** Quizzes will be short handout assignments at the beginning of Tuesday's class that won't take more than five minutes. The quizzes will cover material from the previous week. Students should make sure to put their name on the quiz to receive credit.

**Homework:** Homework assignments will be posted on learn.unm.edu at least two weeks before they are due. These assignments will consist of questions intended to test the student's ability to apply their understanding of concepts covered in class. Answers should be about a page (500 words) to be turned-in in class.

**Students with Disabilities:** If you have a documented disability, please provide me with a copy of your letter from Equal Access Services as soon as possible to ensure that your accommodations are provided in a timely manner.

**Title IX Statement.** In an effort to meet obligations under Title IX, UNM faculty, Teaching Assistants, and Graduate Assistants are considered "responsible employees" by the Department of Education (see pg 15 -<http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/qa-201404-title-ix.pdf>). This designation requires that any report of gender discrimination which includes sexual harassment, sexual misconduct and sexual violence made to a faculty member, TA, or GA must be reported to the Title IX Coordinator at the Office of Equal Opportunity (oeo.unm.edu). For more information on the campus policy regarding sexual misconduct, see: <https://policy.unm.edu/university-policies/2000/2740.html>.

## Course Outline

Week	Date	Chapter and Subject	Assignments Due
1	17-Jan	Ch 1 - Scientific Study of Life	
	19-Jan	Ch 1 - Scientific Study of Life	LS1
2	24-Jan	Ch 2 - The Chemistry of Life	LS2; Quiz 1
	26-Jan	Ch 2 - Organic Molecules	
3	31-Jan	Ch 3 - Cell Biology	LS3; Quiz 2
	2-Feb	Ch 3 - Cell Biology	Assignment 1
4	7-Feb	Ch 4 - Energy of Life	LS4; Quiz 3
	9-Feb	<b>Exam 1</b>	
5	14-Feb	Ch 5 - Photosynthesis	LS5; Quiz 4
	16-Feb	Ch 6 - How Cells Release Energy	LS6
6	21-Feb	Ch 6 - How Cells Release Energy	Quiz 5
	23-Feb	Ch 7 - DNA Structure and Function	LS7
7	28-Feb	Ch 7 - DNA Structure and Function	Quiz 6
	2-Mar	Ch 8 - DNA Replication, Binary Fission and Mitosis	LS8; Assignment 2
8	7-Mar	Ch 9 - Sexual Reproduction and Meiosis	LS9; Quiz 7
	9-Mar	<b>Exam 2</b>	
9	14-Mar	<b>Spring Break</b>	
	16-Mar	<b>Spring Break</b>	
10	21-Mar	Ch 10 - Patterns of Inheritance	LS10
	23-Mar	Ch 10 - Patterns of Inheritance	
11	28-Mar	Ch 12 - Forces of Evolutionary Change	LS12; Quiz 8
	30-Mar	Ch 13 - Evidence of Evolution	LS13
12	4-Apr	Ch 14 - Speciation and Extinction	LS14; Quiz 9
	6-Apr	Ch 15 - Diversity of Microbial Life	LS15; Assignment 3
13	11-Apr	Ch 15 - Diversity of Microbial Life	Quiz 10
	13-Apr	<b>Exam 3</b>	
14	18-Apr	Ch 16 - Diversity of Plants	LS16; Quiz 11
	20-Apr	Ch 16 - Diversity of Plants	
15	25-Apr	Ch 17 - Diversity of Animals	LS17; Quiz 12
	27-Apr	Ch 17 - Diversity of Animals	
16	2-May	Ch 18 - Populations	LS18; Quiz 13
	4-May	Ch 19 - Communities and Ecosystems	LS19; Assignment 4
Thur	11-May	<b>Final exam 3:00 to 5:00</b>	

\*\* Instructor reserves the right to make required changes during the course.